

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EA-09

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R 190830Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5086

AMEMBASSY BERN

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS VIENTIANE 5279

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, CPAS, LA, SZ

SUBJ: SALE OF WORLD SERVICE AUTHORITY PASSPORTS

1. BEARER OF EXPIRED SOUTH VIETNAMESE PASSPORT CAME INTO CONSULAR SECTION TO INQUIRE IF WE RECOGNIZED WORLD SERVICE AUTHORITY PASSPORT. HE HAD WITH HIM EXAMPLE OF SUCH A PASSPORT. HE CLAIMED THAT HE HAD PURCHASED IT FROM AN AGENT OF THE WORLD SERVICE AUTHORITY IN LAOS FOR 800 US DOLLARS. HE WAS TOLD THAT WE DID NOT RECOGNIZE THIS PASSPORT AND HAD NEVER SEEN ONE BEFORE.

2. PASSPORT IS NORMAL SIZE, WITH BLUE PLASTIC COVER. INSIDE, PASSPORT CARRIES NOTICE IN FIVE LANGUAGES THAT "THE WORLD SERVICE AUTHORITY IS A GOVERNMENTAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE FUNCTIONING IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST. ALL DATA FILLED WITH THE ISSUING AGENT RELATIVE TO THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN NOTARIZED." NO ADDRESS IS GIVEN ON PASSPORT FOR "WORLD SERVICE AUTHORITY" BUT WE WERE TOLD BY SOUTH VIETNAMESE WHO PURCHASED THIS PASSPORT THAT HE HAD SEEN AN ADDRESS IN BASEL, SWITZERLAND FOR WORLD SERVICE AUTHORITY ON APPLICATION FORMS HE HAD COMPLETED. EMBASSY BERN MAY HAVE FURTHER INFORMATION OR ORGANIZATION CALLED WORLD SERVICE AUTHORITY.
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